

Delaware Valley School District

OFFICE OF THE BUSINESS ADMINISTRATOR

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TO: *All Employees of Delaware Valley School District*

FROM: *Hans E. Baltzerson, Trust Manager Employee Benefit Trust of Eastern PA*

SUBJECT: *Special Notice to Employees Under the Children's Health Insurance Program Reauthorization Act of 2009 (CHIPRA)*

DATE: *July 9, 2009*

On February 4, 2009, President Obama signed into law the Children's Health Insurance Program Reauthorization Act of 2009 which is effective April 1, 2009. The State Children's Health Insurance Program (CHIP) provides health insurance for children whose families cannot afford private healthcare but do not qualify for federal Medicaid. The act expands CHIP by providing additional special enrollment rights related to group health plan coverage. The new law also permits state subsidies of employer-provided group health premiums for eligible children and families and imposes new notice and disclosure obligations for employers that maintain group health plans.

Therefore, effective April 1, 2009 CHIPRA established new special enrollment rights to add two new trigger events for health plans. Under this law, our group health plan must permit employees and dependent that are eligible but not enrolled for coverage to enroll in the Trust health plans under two scenarios:

- The employee's or dependent's Medicaid or CHIP coverage is terminated as a result of loss or eligibility; or*
- The employee or dependent becomes eligible for a premium assistance subsidy under Medicaid or CHIP.*

An employee must request this special enrollment within sixty days of the loss of coverage in the first scenario and within sixty days of when eligibility is determined in the second scenario.

If you have questions about this information, please contact the EBTEP Office at (610) 515-6510.